

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6952

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SECRETARY; GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: JAMIESON REPLY TO SECRETARY VANCE

REFS: A. STATE 70414, B. OTTAWA 1751, C. OTTAWA 01427

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE FROM
MINISTER JAMIESON, AS HANDED TO CHARGE ON APRIL 6,
RESPONDING TO SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO JAMIESON (REF A)
WHICH AMBASSADOR DELIVERED ON MARCH 21. ORIGINAL BEING
POUCHED TO S/S. COMMENT CONTAINED REF B.

2. BEGIN TEXT: "DEAR CY,

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 21 WHICH WAS MOST
TIMELY AS I WAS ABOUT TO WRITE TO YOU ON THE SAME SUBJECT.
LIKE YOU, I AM OF THE VIEW THAT A COMPREHENSIVE LAW OF
THE SEA TREATY IS THE BEST MEANS OF ASSURING ORDERLY
DEVELOPMENT IN THE USE OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS.

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"WE BOTH RECOGNIZE THAT COMPLEX ISSUES REMAIN TO BE
RESOLVED ON THE DEEP SEABED MINING REGIME IN ORDER TO
ACHIEVE AN ACCEPTABLE COMPREHENSIVE TREATY. TO REALIZE
THIS GOAL, COMPROMISES WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE PART OF
ALL PARTICIPANTS. TO MY MIND, HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE TRAGIC
IF, AFTER MAKING SO MUCH PROGRESS ON THE FULL RANGE OF
LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES, THE CONFERENCE SHOULD FALTER ON

ANY SINGLE ISSUE. A CONFERENCE FAILURE, QUITE APART FROM THE BROADER RAMIFICATIONS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE, WOULD HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR TRADITIONAL NAVIGATIONAL FREEDOMS IN THE EXTENDED MARINE AREAS UNDER COASTAL SOVEREIGNTY AND JURISDICTION.

"I AM THEREFORE REASSURED TO LEARN THAT YOUR DELEGATION WILL BE MAKING A RENEWED EFFORT IN GENEVA TO ADVANCE THE NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD CONSENSUS TEXTS. THIS COMMITMENT IS ALL THE MORE WELCOME TO ME IN LIGHT OF RECENT INDICATIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION MIGHT HAVE BEEN HAVING INCREASING DOUBTS ABOUT THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS FOR THE CONFERENCE AS WELL AS THE NEED FOR A CONFERENCE SOLUTION.

"I AM GLAD YOU HAVE RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE PRODUCTION CEILING FORMULA IN THE ICNT. YOU WILL RECALL THAT I REFERRED TO PRODUCTION LIMITS BRIEFLY DURING OUR MEETING IN NEW YORK, AT WHICH TIME YOU SAID YOU RECOGNIZED THEIR IMPORTANCE TO CANADA, AN UNDERSTANDING YOU HAVE REITERATED IN YOUR LETTER. I AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR AMBASSADORS RICHARDSON AND BEESLEY TO EXPLORE THIS MATTER FURTHER AND TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE BILATERAL AS WELL AS MULTILATERAL MEANS TO MEET OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE POTENTIAL SUBSIDIZATION OF SEABED MINING. I UNDERSTAND THAT OUR TWO DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA HAVE ALREADY STARTED A SERIES OF
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MEETINGS ON THIS ISSUE. I SHOULD REITERATE, HOWEVER, AS I DID TO AMBASSADOR ENDERS WHEN HE DELIVERED YOUR LETTER, THAT THERE ARE IMPORTANT CANADIAN INTERESTS AT STAKE AND WE WOULD HAVE TO SATISFY OURSELVES THAT ANY PROPOSALS IN THIS REGARD WOULD TAKE THESE INTERESTS FULLY INTO ACCOUNT. AS I EXPLAINED BEFORE, CANADIAN CONCERNs HAVE BECOME ALL THE MORE ACUTE IN DOMESTIC TERMS IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT MAJOR LAYOFFS IN CANADIAN MINING CENTRES.

"ONCE OUR NEGOTIATORS HAVE HELD THEIR CONSULTATIONS, WE MIGHT WISH TO REVIEW TOGETHER THE OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO US.

"YOURS SINCERELY, DON JAMIESON" END TEXT. DUEMLING

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